

MAINE FARMER

AND JOURNAL OF THE USEFUL ARTS.

BY WILLIAM NOYES & CO.]

"OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN."

[E. HOLMES, EDITOR.]

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AGRICULTURAL.

For the Maine Farmer.

A TREATISE ON THE CULTURE OF WHEAT—NO. III.

Cause of the Rust of Wheat, and of the failure of this grain on old land.

The following axioms, from their obvious simplicity, I think will generally be admitted to be essentially correct. But I have no writings to quote to prove their authenticity; for I have read but few books upon the subject. Neither do I pretend to much knowledge of philosophy or chemistry myself.

AXIOM 1. *A suitable moisture and warmth of the soil is necessary to promote vegetation.*

The extremes of heat and cold, at the scalding or freezing point, would immediately put a stop to vegetation; and vegetation is retarded when the heat or cold approaches to either of these points. The extreme of heat however, in our climate at least, is not so great as often to check the growth of plants where there is sufficient moisture.

When ground is too wet vegetation is retarded, not only because the soil is generally then too cold, but also because the same quantity of water, then in the soil, contains a less quantity of decomposed manure.

AXIOM 2. *Wheat, like other plants, grows in proportion to the quantity of decomposed manure in the soil (having suitable moisture and warmth) where the roots are extended.*

As manure is the food or nourishment of plants, this is as evident as that good feeding makes large or fat cattle or hogs.—By decomposed manure, I mean any ready prepared nourishment for plants, whether animal, vegetable, or mineral.—That some kinds of manure are more congenial or better adapted to the growth of some species of plants than others, I do not doubt. But the chief distinction, I make in manures, is only in regard to the state in which it is, as being more or less decomposed; for on this my theory is principally founded.

By decomposition, I mean that process of rotting, by which any vegetable or other matter is changed from its original substance to manure, suitable for the nourishment of plants. Animal manure, (that from the stable and barn yard,) is originally vegetable, and is partially decomposed

in the stomachs of those animals through which it passes. In the stomachs of neat cattle and sheep it is more decomposed than in that of the horse. Substances are also decomposed by fire. But by burning, much of their fertilizing qualities are wasted. Hence a hard burn on new ground eventually impoverishes the land. The vegetable manure, if left to decompose by rotting, would afford more nourishment for plants than its ashes. The ashes from a heap of dry manure would not be worth so much as the manure without burning.

AXIOM 3. *Fully decomposed manure may be imbibed in the element of water.* In no other state can it be taken by the roots into the bodies of plants, and afford nourishment to them.

Grounds, receiving the wash from barnyards, are consequently enriched by fully decomposed manure. Also grounds on which heaps of manure have laid; and, finally, all old land which has been highly manured, and where the manure cannot be found in substance, but having been fully decomposed, is, by means of water, incorporated with the soil, more uniformly than it can be mixed with the plough and harrow. The manure in such grounds, having been brought in by means of water, may likewise be drained out by water. Bottoms in fields are enriched by being reservoirs of the water from higher grounds. Hence we may infer, that the rains have a tendency to carry the fertility of ground from the upper to the lower part of the soil.

AXIOM 4. *The surface of ground first becomes sufficiently warm for the purpose of vegetation in the spring; and as the season advances, the warmth of the sun gradually penetrates deeper into the soil.*

This is as evident, as that frozen ground first thaws on the surface. Every gardener knows that when ground is first ploughed in the spring, it must lay some time exposed to the rays of the sun, before it is sufficiently warm to receive the seed.—Those who plant Indian corn bare footed, about the time spring wheat has three or four leaves, may judge how deep ground is sufficiently warm for the purpose of vegetation at this period.

AXIOM 5. *Manure, in the process of decomposition (more especially when fermenting) possesses the quality of producing heat of itself.*

This is evident from the construction of hot-beds. Manure from neat cattle, unless mixed with straw or litter, will not produce so much heat as that from the horse; because it is more decomposed when voided from cattle. On the contrary, a quantity of chips, roots or trees, bushes, &c., will not produce so much heat; because large and hard substances decompose slow-

ly, and only on their external parts.

AXIOM 6. *Manure, while it remains in substance before it is dissolved, or any decaying vegetable matter mixed with the soil, keeps it loose and makes it more pervious to the roots of plants.*

These substances in the soil keep the parts and particles of earth from uniting together, and by their decomposing and lessening in size, they leave room for the fibrous roots of plants more easily to penetrate further and deeper in the soil. Hence, new lands, which abound with decaying vegetable matter, and lands recently manured, are light and loose; but old land, when the manure is dissolved, though it may be rich, lays "flat and heavy," as the phrase is.

AXIOM 7. *The roots and fibres of wheat first proceed from the kernel, and will extend with greater or less facility and rapidity, according to the nature and condition of the soil.*

This is evident from examination of the roots, and from the appearance of wheat on different soils in the first stages of its growth.—In a soil composed of loam and gravel, and enriched by fully decomposed manure, the warmth of the sun and also the roots of wheat penetrate slowly and with difficulty. But if such land is enriched with manure in substance or any vegetable matter, which is not incorporated with the soil, the roots of wheat will extend with more ease and rapidity. The strata of manure and the vegetable substances decomposing in the ground make warm and easy passages for the roots. In these they will extend with great rapidity, and soon receive nourishment from a great extent and depth of soil wherever this nourishment can be found.

In a light sandy loam, roots and fibres of plants will extend with more facility. But in such a soil, manure when fully decomposed will descend with almost equal rapidity. In a deep light soil of this description, grass roots may sometimes be found at the depth of three or four feet, having descended there to receive the manure or nourishment which had been soaked down by water.

A soil the reverse of this, is a stiff clay. Pure clay is almost impervious to water. Tanners often procure this to put around their vats to keep the liquor in them from soaking away. Manure in clayey ground is seldom incorporated with the soil but little more than as the soil is broken and it is mixed with the plough and harrow. Of course strata of manure and fibrous roots of the preceding years growth are found in such a soil; in these the roots of wheat find easy access. On this account wheat in a clay soil attains a proportionably better growth in its early stages, than

on any other description of old ground, and of course is less liable to blight, in our common mode of cultivation.

Having now advanced these axioms, as fundamental principles, I will next proceed to show, according to my views, how and why wheat grows more unequally or irregularly on old land than on new, or that recently cleared.

For this purpose we will suppose two pieces of land, on which wheat is sown in the spring at the same time. One of these pieces is new or burnt land,—not where the vegetable mould is deep and abundant, for on such ground, as Dr. Dwight says, "Wheat grows so as to be universally blasted." But where the vegetable mould is not too thick nor abundant, in short, such a piece of land as in this country is best adapted to the growth of wheat.—The other is a piece of rich old ploughed land, where the manure is fully decomposed and incorporated with the soil, so as to form a component part of the soil itself. This soil we will suppose to be nine inches deep and uniformly rich to this depth. On such a soil we may say from experience wheat invariably blasts. B. R.

THE FARMER.

WINTHROP, FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 28, 1834.

FRIENDLY HINTS.—MARCH.

Did you know that it was past the middle of March, and that to all appearances your spring work will be calling for help in a few days? It is time to wake up and make preparations for action. Pull out the old ploughs and see if they want any repairing. Examine your harrow and see if any of the teeth are missing. Take a peep at your roller and see if it is in good order—Roller!—what's that? ninety-nine Farmers in a hundred might ask with propriety,—we never use one—High time that you did. Take a look at the cart and see what trim that is in. Overhaul your chains and bows and yokes, and see that you have a supply, and all in good repair. An extra yoke or a spare bow or two will not be amiss. If by any accident one should break while getting your seed in, it will not be necessary to stop your team and let a hired hand or two lie still while a new one can be made.

How is your supply of seed? And how are your breeding cows and breeding mares and breeding swine, and above all, your breeding sheep? These require very particular care at this period. If you would have active and healthy stock they must be attended to during the period of infancy. If you would breed stock with profit, don't despise the day of "*small things*," but raise the beginnings well, and see that it is faithfully done. Don't trust it wholly to Tom or Bill, or John or Joe. You may tell them to do it if you please, but see that they perform faithfully. Look to your fences; & by the way, as touching this subject, let us refer you to the remarks of CAROLUS in this paper. How are the hens and the geese and the ducks and the turkeys? All in good

order for setting and hatching, or are they so poor that a hawk would turn his nose up at them? Poultry is profitable when rightly managed; but they should be kept in their place and have enough to eat.

POSTS.

There have been some remarks published in the Genesee Farmer upon the subject of setting posts butt end up, in order to ensure more durability. We were last summer informed by Mr. North of Augusta, that he set, several years ago, two posts near the river at the landing in Augusta not far from the Kennebec Hotel. One of the posts was set butt end up, the other was set the butt end down. He states that both were equally sound when placed in the ground, but that the one which was set butt end up is now sound and good, and that the other is decayed.

His mode for accounting for the difference in preservation is the following, viz. that the tubes in the wood through which the sap ascends while growing, are furnished with valves or separations to prevent the weight of the sap from pressing back. That if the post be set in the ground with the small end up the moisture would rise in the same manner that the sap did, and thus hasten a decomposition of the wood, but if set in the other position the valves or partitions would prevent the moisture from rising at all. This theory is plausible, but whether true or not we cannot say, or whether setting a post with the small end downwards will cause it to last longer than otherwise we cannot say from any experience that we have yet had ourselves. One method however is certain, viz. charring as mentioned by Carolus. And we have also found that by heating the whole of the post even if it be not charred it will increase its durability.

There seems to be a sort of low state of vegetable life remaining in wood even after it has been cut for some length of time; and the action of this vitality does seem, in a manner inexplicable to us, to produce decay. The Shipwrights in the English Navy Yard have become aware of this sort of morbid life, if we may so speak, and they have adopted the plan of soaking their ship timber in a weak solution of Corrosive Sublimate, in order to destroy this kind of action and preventing what is called the dry rot in timber. We have lately received the February number of the Mechanic's Magazine, in which we find some remarks on the subject of preventing the decay of timber by saturating it with lime. We shall publish it in our next.

WHEAT.

We earnestly hope that the farmers of Maine will endeavor to raise more wheat the ensuing season than they ever have yet.

We recommend the clover system to all. Give it a fair trial. In order to raise more, it will be necessary to sow more. This will to be sure require more labor; but we verily believe that the extra labor may be confined

to the ploughing, sowing, and harrowing. To save labor in harvesting, mow your wheat before it is ripe enough to shatter out. See some very good remarks on this subject in our last volume. To save labor in thrashing, employ a thrashing machine. Let us begin to raise our own bread.

For the Maine Farmer.
FENCES.

MR. HOLMES.—The first and most important object, to which the attention of the farmer should be directed on the opening of the Spring, is, his fences. I verily believe that more than one half of the petty broils, contentions, and unhappy differences, which occur among neighbors, have their origin in consequence of bad fences. But this subject presents itself to our view in a much stronger light, when we take into consideration the loss of time in running after Cattle, generally in the most busy season of the year—the loss of Crops—the consequent tendency to make Cattle "breachy," and many other inconveniences which might easily be enumerated. The Farmer's earliest attention, therefore, should be directed to this subject; and as this season of the year offers but little profitable business, it seems to be the most suitable time to prepare for the approaching Spring work by getting out posts, rails, stakes and poles, and hauling them to such places as need requires. As soon as the frost is out and the ground in proper condition, every rod of fence should be thoroughly examined and put in the best possible order for the preservation of his crops and the security of herds and flocks.

It is not supposable that a farmer can put his fences in perfect condition in one year; yet it may be accomplished by doing something towards it every year; and especially by those who have an abundance of rocks on their farms; where this is not the case resource must be had to posts, rails, and boards. In setting posts for durable fence, it is an object worthy of attention, to burn the surface of that part of the post, which enters the ground, to the depth of an inch or more. Its utility becomes apparent when we reflect that charcoal is not affected by either air nor moisture at common temperatures; hence, in burning the bottom of posts, we render them far less liable to rot. In illustration of the durability of charcoal it is stated that the beams of the theatre of Herculaneum are in a state of perfect preservation, although converted to charcoal above seventeen hundred years ago. It is also asserted that grain, which was converted into charcoal in the days of Caesar, still exists in so perfect a state that the kernels of wheat may readily be distinguished from those of rye. It may suffice to ask, who ever saw rotten charcoal?

A writer, in number 41, vol. i., of the Farmer, has recommended stone posts for fence; and from the limited observations I have made in relation to them I am led to believe that they will come into general use; and for the purpose of drawing attention to this subject, I would respectfully request the writer alluded to, to give to the public, through the columns of the Farmer, a brief statement of the actual and relative cost per rod of stone post fence, either of rails or boards.

The utility, beauty, safety and convenience of good fence are so forcibly suggested to the mind that it seems almost needless to make any remarks touching the subject. But what is truth in this case? How often do we see fences cobbled up with a few stakes and rotten poles, with here and there a pile of brush or lopt saplings, old boards and upturned stumps!

when old Boreas in his first frolic will lay rods of it prostrate at one fell swoop: It is however soon patched up again in the same rough and tumble, do-for-the-present style, till some ox or cow or bull, impatient of restraint, and in contempt of his master's wishes, tramples it under his feet and leads the whole posse commitatus, sheep, cows, oxen, horses, into his neighbor's corn?

Such things ought not to be; and now is the proper season to take measures in prevention of their occurrence.

CAROLUS.

For the Maine Farmer.

MR. HOLMES: Much has been said in your useful paper of late, respecting Foreign breeds of Cattle. Much expense has been laid out in procuring and bringing them into this country, I have no doubt to the great benefit and improvement of our Stock of various kinds, such as horses, sheep, black cattle and swine, when crossed with our native breeds. But I would enquire, why the English creatures are better than the American? Is it not wholly owing to such worthy men as Bakewell and others, who have spared no pains in improving their breed, by selecting the best shaped, size, and most perfect of their creatures, and keeping such only for breeders? But in this country we have paid no attention to this important mode of improving our Stock. Is it not known here, that when we have a cow or other animal, in breed of the very best among us, we allow it to be approached by any male however long legged, thin, or ill shaped, provided we can procure the leap for nothing, or if he happens to be situated near us? This is so much the case that, it is said, we should not hesitate to put even a cow to a Jackass, if handy.

But there is another very improper course pursued by us farmers in Maine, which is in allowing the Butchers to pick out and slaughter our most promising calves, lambs, &c. if he will give us twenty five cents more for such than he would for an ill shaped one, perhaps not quite so fat: for we all know that a cow that gives good milk and a considerable portion of it will have the fattest calves. And here I would observe that calves to be kept should never be raised from any other dam, if intended for bulls or cows. I should at once demur at letting a bull approach a cow of mine if he came from a cow that gave very little or bad milk. As like begets like, his offspring would probably inherit the same miserable qualities; and such a bull, if allowed to be kept for cows, would do much more injury than could one female, because he would spread wide the plague. May I be allowed to add, that I apprehend my brother farmers do not enough consider the expense of keeping a bad or poor milker of a cow, —it costs about the same to keep a poor as it does a good one—say 15 or 18 dollars a year, including taxes, &c.; to say nothing of the baneful effect of their progeny if reared, which is too often the case. Now I predict, if a diary of debt and credit was kept, that such a creature annually runs its owner in debt. If so, why will he not at once, or as soon as may be, fat and slaughter her, and thus get rid of the pest. Will each of my brother farmers examine his cows and determine on this course with all such nuisances. I hope that here, as in England, we shall rid ourselves of bad and ill shaped stock, by something like what has there brought their stock to such perfection.

I am determined hereafter to breed from the best stock, if the price is not too mighty unreasonable, and pay more attention to the female than I have done. Those gentlemen in this county who have introduced animals carried to great perfection in foreign countries, deserve

well of us; and we shall benefit ourselves in a long run by their aid in improving our stock, if we are not too careful of present expense: pay such well, until our own stock has improved so that we may profitably breed from those well settled of our native breed, or crossed with the foreign. In this way alone can we ever expect to facilitate improvement. If a mean animal on the whole runs us in debt, let us cast and find it out, and rid ourselves of all such troubles, for we make it ourselves.

IMPROVEMENT.

For the Maine Farmer.

MR. EDITOR,—A correspondent, inquires through your paper, of any one who may be able to answer the interrogatory "Whether Bees ever run or fly away IN THE WINTER?"—and then relates a story which he seems to consider as settling the question in the affirmative: for, says he, "at the setting in of winter I knew this hive was FULL of bees and comb." Now, Mr. Editor, although your correspondent is confident that his Bees were in their hive at the commencement of winter; still I am of a different opinion. I think he either did not examine at the particular time specified, or on examination mistook the hundred and sixty two, of which he speaks, for the whole swarm. Perhaps the hive was so far vacated by the coming out of the third swarm. Be the case as it may, it appears evident to my mind that they must have left as soon as the first of October: for it is well known that Bees usually begin to consume their winter store in the month of September. If then these Bees had been living two months (as his statements imply) on the fruit of their Summer's labor, the hive would not have been "almost as full as it could hold of honey." A case similar to the one detailed by your correspondent occurred in my own immediate vicinity. But the owner instead of supposing they deserted "IN THE WINTER," was satisfied that it was previous to October. And he came to this conclusion from the fact that the hive was almost full of honey when he took it. "Where these bees have gone and for what reason, are questions for any one to answer." They have probably gone to seek a habitation in the forest, more commodious and more congenial to their taste—a home where they may not be annoyed by unwelcome visitors or robbed of their hard earned treasures.

March 21st, 1834.

A. G. D.

For the Maine Farmer.

FLAX.

MR. HOLMES: This useful and profitable plant has almost ceased to be cultivated in this vicinity, although it is a plant easily raised and profitable to the cultivator. If we do not want it for domestic manufacture it meets a ready sale at the rope makers, and is worth 12½ cents per pound. The seed is an article much wanted and commands a high price at the oil mill. It is now probably worth \$1.50 per bushel.

Flax should be sown upon land that has been well manured the year before, and the preceding crop should be potatoes; the land should be ploughed at least three times just before sowing, and after being sowed should be harrowed until the soil is well mixed and fine. If the ground is light and dry, a roller should be passed over it. If the flax is intended for domestic use there should be one and a half bushel sowed to the acre, if intended for the rope maker and a crop of seed, sow but one bushel. An acre will produce if the land is in good order from 4 to 500 pounds of flax, and ten bushels of seed. The seed should be sown as early as the ground is in a good state to receive it, the last of April or the first of May.

When you wish to obtain a good crop of seed it should not be pulled until the seed is fully ripe and the leaves mostly fallen from the stalk. The flax will be softer and better adapted for domestic use if pulled in a green state; but there will be much less seed, and less weight of flax.

I think it would be well for the Trustees of the Agricultural Society to offer a premium on flax and flax seed, to see if we cannot in some measure revive the culture of it. Unless there is something done I shall be out of employ.

March 4, 1834. A FLAX DRESSER.

For the Maine Farmer.

MR. EDITOR—I am a dear lover of Music, and having had the pleasure, last Monday evening, of attending the Exhibition at the close of the Singing School, taught in this village by Mr. G. W. FAIRBANKS of Wayne, I cannot refrain from expressing my gratitude to the Teacher, the School and to those who joined their voices and instruments, for the rich entertainment I enjoyed. I am not a *connoisseur* in Music, but if I can form any opinion of the qualifications of Mr. Fairbanks as an instructor, and of the proficiency of the School in the science of music, by the effect of their performance upon my feelings, I most cheerfully bear testimony in favor of both.

MR. EDITOR—Permit me to ask, are the public fully aware of the power of music upon the human heart, and the influence it might and does exert upon individual and national character? In the language of an able writer, "its rich and varied stores furnish the means of cherishing the devotion of the pious, or the passions of the sensualist; of rousing anger to violence, or of melting benevolence into tears."

Almost all admit that music is an appropriate part of public worship, & for that purpose should be taught. Some more enthusiastic upon the subject contend that it should be a branch of common education. I will quote the language of one who entertains these views, for the double purpose of showing my opinion of the importance of such a School as has just closed, and presenting a part of his reasons to the public.

"In furnishing an amusement of this kind, we shall divert from others of a doubtful or injurious character. In giving young men such a means of innocent excitement, by music appropriate to their age and feelings, we diminish the temptation of resorting to stimulating liquors, and other questionable modes of producing cheerfulness.

"But, aside from this benefit, music, of itself, has an effect which cannot be doubted, in softening and elevating the character. It diminishes the strength of the passions, by keeping them, for a time at least, in a state of inaction. It counteracts them, by producing the opposite and softer feelings.

"In addition to this, the study of music, from its very nature, cultivates the habits of order, and obedience, and union. All must follow a precise rule; all must act together, and in obedience to a leader; and the habit acquired in one part of our pursuits, necessarily affects others.

"On all these accounts, vocal music has no small influence on school discipline. We were struck with the superior order and kindly aspect of the German schools in comparison with our own, & ascribed it not a little to the cultivation of music in them. Those who unite in singing, with their fellows and their master, will be more disposed to be kind to the one, and obedient to the other."

OLD HUNDRED.

The publisher of a paper in Canada, a few weeks ago notified his subscribers of his pecuniary embarrassment, and plainly told them that if they did not settle up their arrearages the paper could not be continued. The appeal, it seems, was not altogether in vain, for in his next paper he acknowledges, with much pleasure the receipt of one dollar!

The Legislature of Alabama, at its late session passed an act exempting females from imprisonment for debt.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Maine Farmer.

PENOBCOT AGR. SOCIETY.

Mr. EDITOR,—When I sent you a copy of the By-laws of the Penobscot Agricultural Society I promised you more information on the subject. I will now proceed to redeem my pledge. I have just returned from an adjourned meeting of that Society, holden at Levant. Although the weather this morning threatened to be very unfavorable, yet, the meeting was respectably attended, and nearly **FOURTY** new members were voted into the Society.

The greatest degree of harmony and good feeling prevailed throughout the whole proceedings—each one appeared to operate to produce one common end—the dissemination of Agricultural knowledge. The officers were all unanimously chosen; after which, a very appropriate and spirited address was delivered by a gentleman from Newport, whose name I do not retain. As the Society is so rapidly increasing it was thought best not to lay any assessment until the meeting in June, in order to have as many members to assess as possible. They however authorized their Trustees to offer premiums on Crops, Tools, Stock, &c. at their discretion, to the amount of **TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS.**

The officers are as follows:

SEBA FRENCH, Esq.	of Dexter, President.
COL. DANIEL CHASE,	Sebec, 1st V. Pres't.
GEO. WAUGH, Esq.	Levant, 2d V. P.
REUBEN BARTLET, Esq.	Garland, 3d V. P.
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James Tilton, Mark Fisher, Isaac Case,	of Levant, Trustees.
M. Greenlief, Esq.	of Williamsburg, Com. on
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Winthrop Chapman,	Exeter, &c.
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Salmon Holmes,	Foxcroft, on
Nathan Fiske,	Levant, Stock.
James White, of Newport,	Committee
Jona. Farrar, Esq.	Dexter, on Crops,
Hon. Jos. Kelsey,	Guilford, Trees, &c.

For the Maine Farmer.
MILCH COWS.

Mr. EDITOR,—I need not say to you that I have but very little experience in the science of Agriculture, for you must be aware of that fact from the manner in which I have previously made inquiries through your paper, on several subjects. I am, however, anxious to adopt the very best modes of doing my farming, and if a plan is proposed on which I have any doubt as to its expediency, I am under the necessity of troubling some one who has experience in the matter, for information.

And now, Mr. Editor, if you will publish the following extract from an address delivered before the Essex Agricultural Society, by Col. Pickering, in 1828; and if any of your readers have tested the merits of his plan and will communicate their experience through your paper, they will not only oblige me but many others.

He says "I have two or three observations to make respecting Milch Cows. Every farmer knows that they sometimes slink their calves; and it is said that a miscarriage once occurring, is likely to be repeated. This has happened to a very promising heifer of my own. When near two years and a half old, well grown, (as big as a cow in general, though of the native breed,)—in full health and fleshy,

even to fatness, she slunk her calf, which was so young as to be destitute of hair. However, she was regularly milked twice a day, giving at first only half a pint at a milking: but her bag and teats gradually increased in size, and her milk from half a pint to two quarts at a milking. Having taken bull she continued to give four quarts of milk daily; at the same time laying on so much additional flesh and fat that she would have made fat beef. In this healthy and active condition, at the end of six months and a half from the time she took bull, she dropped another dead calf—large for the time and covered with hair. Being milked as usual she continued to give about four quarts a day for a few days, and then rapidly increased the quantity to seven quarts a day. Her pasture was good. The milk all the time was perfectly sweet—not in the least changed by calving. She continued well and active, and retained her fat and flesh. I was a little concerned about her CLEANING the discharge of the secundine or after-birth, but this came away by degrees.

"I take this occasion further to notice the CLEANING or after-birth, about which I have understood that different opinions have been entertained. Some have thought that it should be carefully removed and not suffered to be eaten by the cow that has just dropped a calf. For myself, while living on my farm, I chose that my cows should be allowed to FOLLOW NATURE and eat their CLEANING. It is evidently an instinct affecting them at this particular time as really as the instinct of the calf as soon as it is licked dry and can rise and walk prompts it to seek for the teats of its dam. It appears to know that they are under her belly, but not whether they are between the fore or the hind legs; and accordingly it sometimes seeks them between the fore legs—until the experience of a day or two conducts it to the proper place.

"Whether the CLEANING eaten by the newly calved cow operates as a salutary article of food or as a medicine, I am entirely satisfied that it should be considered as a specific, exactly adapted to her condition."

For the Maine Farmer.

ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF PLOUGHS.

MR. HOLMES,—In your remarks on a former communication of mine upon this subject, in number 7, you very properly add the lever as being among the mechanical powers combined in the construction of the plough. I had in my "mind's eye" particularly that part of the surface of the plough which turns the furrow. This must be my apology for omission.

The question now at issue before the public is, whether a concave or a convex surface to the mould board is better than the medium.—In discussing this question, I shall keep in view the construction of what is called a breaking up plough. And here I say if any one wishes to crack the furrow by bringing the edges together partially, give the mould board a concave surface to be sure. The concavity increasing gradually from the fore to the hind part of the board.

The advantages or disadvantages of such a practice is not at issue now. The question is now, what form is to be given to the mould board in order to take the furrow as the share and coulter cuts it and turn it fairly over.

As to the question of friction, I agree with you, Mr. Editor, that any deviation from the rule which you laid down would increase it in a greater or less degree. But to me, Sir, it appears that there is an important advantage to be gained, in turning over very stiff sward, to have the mould board slightly concave. I will

try to explain it. If you or I wished to turn over a plank by the application of any power whatever, we should certainly be wise to bring that power to operate as near to that edge of the plank as possible which would form the circumference of the circle of motion. This direction of power employed in turning a furrow I think would be effected by the concave mould-board.

From these remarks it will be obvious that a convex surface by throwing the operating power towards the other edge of the furrow will be as disadvantageous as the concave will be advantageous. It will be similar in principle to a person's raising a long ladder against a building by setting one end against it and then seizing it between the centre and that end to raise the other. I once had a plough with a convex mould-board and I thought it the worst form that I ever saw.

Perhaps it may be expected that I should say something on the most proper length of the mould-board to effect the object under consideration. My ideas on that point are not sufficiently matured to be presented to the public. I shall then, as the Lawyers say, stop here until I hear from the other side.

Yours, &c.

J. H. J.

Peru, March 8th, 1834.

For the Maine Farmer.
POTATOES.

MR. EDITOR,—I think that the potatoes mentioned in a recent number of your paper, as presented you by Mr. Curtis, are the same kind that is known here by the name of St. Johns' potatoes. Whether this is the proper name or not, I cannot say. They were brought here in 1830, from Frankfort.

We have another kind that ripen much earlier than those above mentioned, and retain their dryness and good flavor until very late the next summer. In shape, they resemble the old fashioned white or yellow potatoe, only the eyes, at the seed end, are much larger. Their skin is a light purple, and when cooked the inside is yellow. This flavor is very pleasant, but not so sweet as the St. Johns. They were first brought to this place from the town of Hope, by Mr. Abram Nason, and are known by the general name of early potatoes. If any one of your readers can give us the true name of this variety, we shall be much obliged to him. Neither of these kinds yield so well as the Chenango, consequently are cultivated only for the table.

M. S.

For the Maine Farmer.
RAISING WHEAT.

MR. EDITOR,—A piece of land lying in Dixfield village, owned and improved by Mr. C. T. Chase, after being improved as a pasture some years, was ploughed up three years ago last summer and sowed with rye, without manure and without grass seed. The crop of rye was rather small. The spring after the rye was taken off, the stumps were taken out, the land ploughed, and manured with about a dozen loads of leached ashes to one acre and one eighth of an acre. It was then sowed with wheat and clover seed. The produce was twenty six bushels. The same fall after the wheat was taken off, the clover, which had taken well, was ploughed under, and the succeeding spring (which was the last) the land sowed with wheat, without any manure. The produce of this sowing was **FORTY AND A HALF BUSHELS**, measured after it had been passed through the cleanser at the flour mill in the village. Mr. Chase thinks that the crop might have been injured from 3 to 5 bushels by cattle which broke in while the crop was growing. If we add three bushels, the smallest quantity

mentioned, to the forty and a half bushels, we shall have forty three and a half bushels of clean wheat from 1 1/8 acre. Deduct then from 43 1/2 bushels one ninth part for the eighth of an acre, and you will have something over thirty eight and a half bushels to the acre. Is not this doing well?

Peru, March 17th, 1834. J. H. J.

NOTE.—And yet there are those so stupid as to believe that Maine cannot raise her own bread stuff.—ED.

For the Maine Farmer.

HABITS OF PLANTS.—No. 1.

Mr. HOLMES,—It is an established maxim with me, the better Philosopher, the better Farmer. By this I do not mean a man who shuts himself up in his study and "trims" over the midnight lamp with no other object in view than to obtain the name of a very learned man. I mean the man who studies nature with a view to bring the results into daily use, for his own benefit and that of others. It appears to me to be a very erroneous idea entertained by many, perhaps by most of our farmers, that a laboring man has nothing to do with philosophical studies. It is very true that a man who has to support himself by his industry, and especially if like me he is poor, has but little time to spare. But it is equally true, if that little time be well employed, he may accomplish much. If he studies he may accomplish much. If his studies are directed, as they ought to be, to those branches of philosophical knowledge which are the most useful to him in his profession, he may, even in the beautiful language of Scripture, consider the lillies, how they grow, while his hands are employed in wielding the hoe or the scythe. How much valuable knowledge might be gained without any loss of time.

I make these reflections as an introduction to some remarks that I thought of making on the subject contained in the caption of this article and of giving to the public through the medium of the *Maine Farmer*. In the mean time I should be exceedingly pleased if some of your correspondents of literary and scientific attainments, would give a lift at the wheel to help the car of knowledge up the hills of difficulty to the summit of perfection. And will you, Mr. Editor, have your smoothing plane ready with a keen edge to polish the productions of an unlearned essayist, and render them fit to meet the public eye.

Yours, &c. J. H. J.

Peru, March 8th, 1834.

From the Genesee Farmer.

CATTLE—No. IV.

LONG HORNS—CONTINUED.

In my last number I noticed the rise, progress, and extinction of the Bakewellian breed of Long Horns. It is not surprising that this improvement should eventually degenerate to its original standard, but it was not to have been expected that a breed so celebrated should so soon have become extinct. It can only be accounted for upon the system of breeding "in and in," which seems ever to have been so repugnant to the laws of nature, as to forbid the hope of producing any permanent benefit, by its adoption. But we have already seen, that these efforts were not without their real benefits. Aside from the impulse given to agricultural improvements, they established the fact, that almost any breed of animals may be improved, and nearly perfected by careful selection and judicious breeding.

The forend long, but light to a degree of elegance; the neck thin, the chap clean, the head long and tapering. The eye large, bright and prominent. The horns vary as to sex; those of the bull are comparatively short, from fifteen inches to two feet; those of the oxen are extremely large being from two and a half to three and a half feet long; those of the cows nearly as long, but much finer, and tapering to delicately fine points. Most of them hang downward by the cheeks, and if well turned, shoot forward at the points.

The shoulders thin as to bone, but thickly covered with flesh. The girth small, compared with the Short Horns; the chine remarkably full when

fat; the loin broad, and the hip remarkably wide and protuberant. The quarters long and level; the round bones small; but the thighs in general fleshy, and the legs small and clean. The carcass nearly cylindrical; the ribs standing out full from the spine, and the belly small. The hide of middle thickness, and loose. The fattening quality good, the flesh excellent, and the bone and offal small. Their early maturity had gained a year, and though not quite as heavy, the diminution of weight was more than compensated by increased excellence of meat. As dairy stock they degenerated; and as beasts of draught their form rendered them unfit.

But no circumstance seemed to have so direct and visible effect in depressing the Long Horns as the introduction of the improved Short Horns. In the counties of Westmoreland, Lancashire and West Yorkshire the Long Horns still exist in tolerable purity; but the Short Horns are fast undermining them even there, in their native districts. Crosses of all descriptions, however, abound; but one between the Long Horns and the Durhams is considered most valuable. This cross though excellent, it is difficult to perpetuate, for in three or four generations they become again Long Horns, without their original good qualities. The dairy farmers therefore in these districts usually prefer the Long Horns; or if mixed with the Short Horns, to have the old blood predominate.

"Within the last few years, the farmers in these districts, becoming jealous of the superiority of Short Horns, have endeavored, and with great success to renovate the Long Horn breed. It is an object worthy of their attention, for although as regards the quantity of milk, the Long Horns must ultimately be superseded by one description of Short Horn cattle, and in early maturity by another, yet it is too valuable a breed to be lost or to be much deteriorated."

In Derbyshire and Cheshire, the Long Horn breed originally prevailed, though somewhat modified. The Cheshire breed, though chiefly Long Horns, contains a mixture of Middle Horns, Short Horns, Welch, Scotch, and Irish, and from this strange compound came the celebrated *dairy cow* which has produced such fine cheese. She was rather a small, quaint and ill shaped animal, and yet possessed a large thin skinned bag, and swelling milk veins.

It is remarkable that in Leicester, where the Long Horns had been brought to their highest perfection, they should have been so soon supplanted by any breed, however superior. But so it is, the breed has almost disappeared.

"Where a few Long Horns do linger, the improved Dishleys are gone. For grazing and for early maturity, the Long Horns must yield to the Durhams, and it is only their adaptation to certain localities, which enables them to sustain themselves at all."

The Long Horns, also, with varied success, penetrated into Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire, Wiltshire and all along the southern shore of England. In most of these districts, they still continue more or less pure, but not as the prevailing breed. Many gentlemen are endeavoring to preserve them from extinction, and it is to be hoped they may yet be reinstated in their former pre-eminence. In Staffordshire, Lord Bagot still retains the Long Horns in their present state, and towards the north of the county they continue to maintain their ground. The old Stafford cattle were a somewhat coarse kind of Long Horns, of the middle size, of various colors and with no great aptitude to fatten, but excellent for the dairy. A few of them are yet to be seen in the possession of the small farmers. The first attempt at improving them, was by the introduction of the Dishley breed, and the crossing was carried to a considerable extent. In process of time, the Staffords became an exceedingly valuable breed, and so continue, and are now greatly prized in the neighboring countries.

In Warwickshire and Oxfordshire, the residences of Mr. Webster and Mr. Fowler, the Long Horns continued to contest the ground against the Durhams, the Devons, and the Herefords, but with poor success. Some of the breed still exist there, and the most valuable dairy breed is a mixture of the Long and Short Horns.

Although the Long Horns, as a distinct and

pure breed, have become almost extinct, their blood still forms the principle ingredient in all the cattle of the midland counties, and each district is characterized by a breed peculiar to itself. All however are essentially Long Horns, though it is to be feared that the rapid extension of the Short Horns and Devons, will ultimately drive them from the country.

As a distinct breed, I do not know that the Long Horns are cultivated at all in the United States. During the time of the Bakewellian excitement, a few were introduced in the country, but soon became merged in our native cattle. In the early settlement of the country, it is also probable that many of this breed were brought over by the first settlers, as many relics of the breed still remain in Massachusetts and Connecticut. In Virginia some of the Long Horns were early introduced, and it is said, though I do not know with what truth, that General Washington bestowed some attention upon their cultivation.

In contemplating the history of this breed of cattle, several reflections present themselves to our view. First the original and native character of the breed. As a race, they were remarkable for no peculiar excellencies. Some were good others bad, while the great mass were of a middle character, exciting neither observation nor remark.

Second, their astonishing improvement, and the high celebrity they attained under the Bakewellian system of management. It is evident this improvement was the result of careful selection in the first place, and of judicious connection afterwards, among the best of their produce. High feeding, also, formed an essential part of the plan of operations, and we have no reason to suppose that any betterment could have occurred, without it.

Third, their rapid degeneration as an improved breed, after they had attained their maximum of excellence. Hardly a trace now remains of the true Dishley breed, though the Long Horns have been, and still are, bred by some agriculturists with much success.

With these facts in view, we are irresistibly led to the conclusion, that the same process applied to almost any breed of cattle, will produce similar results. The same care in selection, the same expense and labor in breeding "in and in," and the same luxuriance in feeding, would doubtless effect an equal renovation in any of our own native breeds; but if the result of all such labor and expense must only be to degenerate again to their original character, the adoption of such a system in this country, would be, to say the least, of doubtful expediency.

But whatever objections may be made to the Bakewellian system, as applied to the formation of a particular breed, it is abundantly evident from the foregoing statements, that it will appear still more so in the history of the other breeds which follow, that paramount advantages have been obtained by judicious selections and breeding, and that it is to a scientific and assiduous attention to these particulars, that the world is now and always must be, indebted for any improvement in domestic animals.

QUERCUS.

From the Genesee Farmer.

CATTLE HUSBANDRY.

[Continued from page 69.]

MIDDLE HORNS—DEVON COW.

"There are few things more remarkable about the Devonshire cattle than the comparative smallness of the cow. The bull is a great deal less than the ox, and the cow almost as much smaller than the bull. This, however, is of some advantage, and the breeders are aware of it; for, although it may not be necessary to have a large bull, and especially as those of any extraordinary size are seldom handsome in all their points, but somehow or other present coarseness or deformity, it is almost impossible to procure large and serviceable oxen, except from a somewhat roomy cow. These cows, however, although small, possess that roundness and projection of two or three of the last ribs, which make them actually more roomy than a careless examination of them would indicate. The cow is particularly distinguished for her full round clear eye the gold colored circle round the eye, and the same color

prevailing on the inside skin of the ear. The countenance cheerful, the muzzle orange or yellow, but the rest of the face having nothing of black, or even white about it. The jaws free from thickness, and the throat free from dewlap. The points of the back and the hind quarters different from those of other breeds, having more of roundness and beauty, and being free from most of those angles by which good milkers are sometimes distinguished."

QUALITIES OF THE DEVONS.

"Their qualities may be referred to three points; their working, fattening and milking.

"Where the ground is not too heavy the Devonshire oxen are unrivaled at the plough. They have a quickness of action which no other breed can equal, and which very few horses exceed. They have also a degree of docility and goodness of temper, and also stoutness and honesty of work to which many teams of horses cannot pretend. Vancouver, in his survey of Devonshire, says, that it is a common day's work on fallow land, for four steers to plough two acres with a double furrow plough. Four good Devon steers will do as much work in a field, or on the road as any three horses, and in as quick, and often quicker, time, although many farmers calculate two oxen as equal to one horse. The principal objection to the Devonshire oxen is, that they have not sufficient strength for tenacious clayey soils: they will, however, exert their strength to the utmost, and stand many a dead pull, which few horses could induce or forced to attempt. They are uniformly worked in yokes, and not in collars. Four oxen, or six growing steers.

"There is a peculiarity in driving the ox-team which is very pleasing to the stranger, and the remembrance of which, connected with his early days, the native does not soon lose. A man and a boy attend each team; the boy chants that which can scarcely be regarded as any distinct tune, but which is a very pleasing succession of sounds resembling the counter-tenor in the service of the cathedral. He sings away with unrivaled lungs, as he trudges along almost from morning till night while every now and then the ploughman puts in his lower notes, but in perfect concord. When the traveller stops in one of Devonshire valleys, and hears this simple music from the drivers on the slope of the hill on either side, he experiences a pleasure which this operation of husbandry would scarcely be supposed to be capable of affording. This chanting is said to animate the oxen somewhat in the same way as the musical bells that are so prevalent in the same country. Certainly the oxen move along with an agility that would scarcely be expected from cattle; and the train may be watched a long time without one harsh word being heard, or the goad or whip applied. The opponents of ox-husbandry should visit the valley of North or South Devon, to see what this animal is capable of performing, and how he performs it.

"The profit derived from the use of oxen in this district arises from the activity to which they are trained, and which is unknown in any other part of the kingdom. During harvest time, and in catching weather, they are sometimes trotted along with the empty wagons, at the rate of six miles an hour, a degree of speed which no other ox but the Devon has been able to withstand.

"They are usually taken into the work at about two years, or twenty six months old; & they are worked till they are four, or five or six; they are then grazed, or kept on hay, and in ten or twelve months, and without any further trouble, they are fit for the market. If the grass land is good, no corn, or cake, or turneps, are required for the first winter; but, of course, for a second winter, these must be added. The grazier likes this breed best at five years old, and they will usually, when taken from the plough, fetch as much money as at six. At eight or nine years older, they are rapidly declining in value.

"Lord Somerville states, that after having been worked lightly on the hills for two years, they are bought at four years old by the tillage farmer of the vales, and taken into hard work from four to six; and, what deserves consideration, an ox must be thus worked in order for him to attain his full size. If he is kept idle until he is five or six, he will invariably be stinted in his growth. At six he reaches his full stature, unless he is naturally

disposed to be of more than ordinary size, and then he continues to grow for another half year.

"Their next quality is their disposition to fatten, and very few rival them here. They do not indeed, attain the great weight of some breeds; but, in a given time, they acquire more flesh, and with less consumption of food, and their flesh is beautiful in its kind. It is of that mottled, marbled character, so pleasing to the eye, and to the taste. Some very satisfactory experiments have been made on this point.

"Mr Carpenter, a very intelligent farmer, informs us, that the Duke of Bedford had some prime Hereford oxen sent to his Tavistock estate in the month of April, and he ordered some Devons to be bought at the latter end of the same month. The Devons were not in so good condition as the Herefords when they were put to grass and cost about 5*l.* a head less than the Hereford; but at the latter end of December, when they were all sold to the butcher, the Devons were superior in farness and weight.

"A more satisfactory experiment was made by the same nobleman. Six oxen were selected in Nov. 16, and fed until Dec. 10, the following year and the following was the result:

	First weight.	Sec. weight.	Gained.	Oil cake.	Turneps.	Hay.
	cwt. qrs. lbs.	cwt. qrs. lbs.	cwt. qrs. lbs. or stone	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1 Hereford,	17 0	18 1	1 0	1 2 27 24 3	2700 41 5 423	487 432
2 do.	18 0	21 0	25	2 3 25 41 5	2712	
3 Devon,	14 1	17 2	2 7	3 1 0 45 4	438	295
4 do.	14 2	19 1	0	4 2 14 64 6	442	442
5 Sussex,	16 2	19 3	0	3 1 0 45 4	432	2056
6 Leicesters,	15 2	18 2	0	2 3 14 40 2	434	2655
					2652	392
					400	

	First weight.	Sec. weight.	Gained.	Oil cake.	Turneps.	Hay.
	cwt. qrs. lbs.	cwt. qrs. lbs.	cwt. qrs. lbs. or stone	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1 Devon,	13 1	17 3	7 0	4 2 0	63	
2 do.	16 0	20 3	14 0	4 3 2 67		
3 Glamorgan	13 3	16 0	14 3	3 3 18 54 6		

"We are aware that experiments have been instituted with different results.

"For the dairy, the North Devons must be acknowledged to be inferior to several other breeds. Their milk is good, and yields more than average proportion of cream and butter,* but it is deficient in quantity. There are those, however, and no mean judges, who deny this, and select the North Devons even for the dairy.

"Mr Conyers, of Copt Hall, near Epping, a district almost exclusively devoted to the dairy, preferred the North Devons, on account of their large produce, whether in milk, butter or suckling. He thought that they held their milk longer than any other sort he had tried; that they were liable to fewer disorders in their udders; and that being of small size, they did not eat more than half what larger cows consumed. He thus sums up his account of them: 'Upon average, ten cows gave me five dozen pounds of butter per week in the summer, and two dozen in the winter. A good North Devon cow fats two calves a year.' My 30 North

*The differences in the richness of milk in oleaginous properties often amounts to one-third. The writer of this note tested the milk of five cows, about the same time, with the barometer. The cream was found to vary from nine to fifteen per cent.

Devon cows have this year upon an average, produced a profit of £13 14 0 per cow. [About \$61.] As nurses they are excellent; and the calves thrive from their small quantity more rapidly than could possibly be expected."

To be continued.

SUMMARY.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.—Charles S. Abbot of Castine, to be County Attorney for the County of Hancock.

Job Prince of Turner, to be County Commissioner for Oxford County, vice Moses Mason Jr., resigned.

Samuel Emery of Portland, to be Inspector General of Nails, vice Nathaniel Goodwin, whose term of office had expired.

John Andrews of Scarborough, to be County Commissioner for Cumberland, vice Edmund Mann, resigned.

Simeon Fogg of Limerick, to be County Commissioner for York County, vice James Ayer, deceased.

Nathan Clifford, of Newfield, to be Attorney General, vice Jonathan P. Rogers, resigned.

Reuben S. Prescott to be Recorder of the Municipal Court for the city of Bangor.

William R. Lowney, of Sebec, to be County Commissioner for the county of Penobscot, vice Joseph Kelsey, resigned.

Edwin Smith of Warren, to be an inspector of the State Prison. Re-appointed.

Allen H. Cobb of Durham, Zina Hyde of Bath, and Abner B. Thompson of Brunswick, to be Commissioners to examine into the affairs of the State Prison, under the Resolve, approved February 28, 1834, entitled a Resolve respecting the State Prison.

From Europe.—Liverpool papers of the 8th of February have been received at New York by the packet ship Virginian. The London dates are also of the 8th.

A serious altercation took place in the House of Commons on the 5th, between Lord Althorp and Mr Shiel, while the affairs of Ireland were under discussion. Both were committed to the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms, but were liberated on their engagement to obey the rules of the House.

Mr Gilbert Stewart Newton, the celebrated painter, died in London, on the 24th of January in the 40th year of his age.

It is stated in the French papers, that Louis Philippe has received a letter from the Emperor of Russia, in which the latter expresses his desire to co-operate with France in efforts to maintain the peace of Europe. Some sensation had been created in the Chamber of Deputies, by a demand of Marshal Soult, in contravention of his previous engagement, for the increase of the army to 371,000 men. An extraordinary appropriation of 2,800,000 francs was also demanded by the Minister of Marine, for the increase of the naval armament in the Mediterranean.—The funeral of M. Dulong was attended by a vast body of people, but no disturbance took place.

PORTUGAL.—The intelligence from Lisbon was to the 2d of Feb. The substance of the news is, that there had been several skirmishes between the hostile parties, but the most important was on the 30th of January, when the Miguelites made an attack on the Queen's forces, but were repulsed with considerable loss. On the same day Gen. Saldanha attacked the Miguelites, when they retreated, leaving a great number killed and wounded, and he succeeded in taking about 700 prisoners, among whom were a general and several officers.

SPAIN.—Accounts from Madrid are to the 30th of Jan.—The Basque provinces had been declared in a state of siege. The Carlos party were concentrating their forces in the north, but were unable to muster more than 6 or 7000 men; and on the other hand the Catalonians had raised a body of volunteers, consisting of between 5 or 6000 men for the defence of Queen Isabel. The Queen's party continue to maintain their ascendancy.

BOSTON STEAMBOATS. The steamers begin to muster in our harbor. The McDonough arrived from Portland on Saturday, being the first boat between this city and there. We are to have the ensuing season the following boats on the Eastern route. The Bangor, (just launched at New York) the Chancellor Livingston, and it is said the old Connecticut. The General Lincoln, steamed up from Hingham yesterday, in gallant style, indica-

ting that she has not grown old in winter quarters. We hear nothing of a Nahant boat yet, but they say the Count is calculating the chances, and stands ready to cut in at a moment's notice.

Transcript.

STATE OF MAINE.—BY THE GOVERNOR.
A PROCLAMATION.

For a day of Public Fasting and Prayer.

As the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe, who holds in his hand the destinies both of nations and of individuals, has made us, notwithstanding our ingratitude, the objects of his care and protection hitherto, it is highly becoming in us, to set apart a day at the opening of the year, to humble ourselves before God; confessing our past transgressions, and beseeching him to continue to us his unrequited blessings.

In conformity therefore, with a venerated usage and by the advice of the Executive Council, I do appoint THURSDAY the tenth day of April next to be observed as the ANNUAL FAST.

Let us on that day, with contrite hearts, confess our transgressions, and with unfeigned humility seek forgiveness through the mediation of our Saviour. Let us with fervent supplications entreat the Author of all good, that he would bless us in the events of the coming year, and crown the successive seasons with abundance—that he would confirm the union and perpetuate the prosperity of these States and suffer no designs formed against them to prevail—that he would continue unimpaired the civil and religious institutions, by which he has distinguished us among the nations of the earth—that he would smile upon our Colleges and Schools, and prosper the efforts that are making for moral and intellectual improvement—that he would lead all that are entrusted with authority, to discharge the duties committed to them with fidelity; and those who are "set for the defence of the Gospel," to exemplify by their lives the religion they profess—and above all, that he would hasten the happy period, when wars shall cease to the ends of the earth, and all men shall cheerfully bow to the sceptre of the Prince of Peace.

And the people of this State are requested on the day of the appointed Fast, to suspend all unnecessary labor and recreation.

GIVEN at the COUNCIL CHAMBER in AUGUSTA this eighth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty four, and in the fifty eighth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

ROBERT P. DUNLAP.

By the Governor.

ROSCOE G. GREEN, Sec'y of State.

The heaviest fall of snow we have had this season, took place on Friday night. It commenced early in the evening, and continued till 8 o'clock this morning, when it lay upon the ground to the depth of 12 or 15 inches. The sleighs have been improving it merrily, but their fun is nearly over. If the weather continues as at present, it will entirely disappear in 48 hours. [Jour. Com.

Revolt. Four Seamen belonging to the ship Helen, Capt. Botman, were arrested on Friday last on a charge of attempt at mutiny while lying in the harbor of Liverpool. They have been examined before Judge Betts, and committed for trial.

N. Y. paper.

Cholera at New Orleans.—We are informed by a person direct from New Orleans, that the Cholera made its appearance at that place during the first week of February. Its ravages had not at last dates, been very great, but it was apprehended that the coming season would be a very severe one.—*Phil. Inquirer.*

MARRIAGE EXTRAORDINARY. In Woodstock, N. B., Mr. J. Munson, to Mr. Henry Allen. It seems there is something remarkable in this marriage, and it savors not a little of old romance. It seems that Munson and S. I. Page of Hallowell originally came from Connecticut, and set up business in Hallowell on a very extensive scale. Shortly after, Mr. Page went to Connecticut, and brought back Henry Allen as a clerk in his store. Every body was well pleased with Henry Allen, and he was offered the highest wages when he left Mr.

Page's employ, but he would listen to no offers but those of Mr. Munson who was about establishing himself in Houlton. Here again Mr. Henry Allen displayed the same activity, exciting the admiration of the men by his judgment in business, and his knowledge of accounts, for he appeared to be quite young; but the astonishment of the ladies was without bounds, for no women in the country could sew, iron, or manage household affairs equal to Henry Allen, as he frequently exercised his skill in these matters at his boarding house. But the *denouement* came at last—he went over to Woodstock with his employer, put on woman's clothes, and was married to him as a Miss —. It seems she had been engaged to Munson in Connecticut, but her father refusing to sanction the match, she ran away, and ended the courtship in the above manner.

Ellsworth Adv.

DEATH OF THE GOVERNOR OF KENTUCKY. The Legislature of Kentucky concludes its session with the melancholy office of attending the funeral obsequies of His Excellency John Breathitt, Governor of the State. We have received a paper containing the ceremonial directed by the General Assembly to pay its last honors to the excellent and amiable man.—*Washington Globe.*

MARRIAGES.

In Wayne, on Sunday last, by Rev. Mr. Fuller, of this town, Mr. Seth Maxim 2d, to Miss Mary Ann Lewis, both of Wayne.

In Hallowell, by Rev. Robert Low, Mr. Rowland Freeman of Milo, to Miss Harriet L. Day.

In Vassalborough, 13th inst. Mr. Luther M. Williams to Miss Jane F. Hamlen.

DEATHS.

In Scarborough, Mr. William Stone Ingraham, aged 46, son of Joseph Ingraham, Esq. of Portland. He has been in a state of mental derangement 26 years.

In Clinton, Miss Eliza Ann Furber, aged 26.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administrator of all and singular the goods and estate which were of JOHN CURRIER, late of Winthrop, in the County of Kennebec, deceased, intestate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs:—All persons therefore, having demands against the estate of the said deceased are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to

W. C. FULLER, Administrator.

Feb'y 25, 1834.

To the Honorable H. W. FULLER, Judge of the Court of Probate within and for the County of Kennebec.

THE petition and representation of OREN SHAW, Guardian of GEORGE ALBERT HAYWARD, minor child of ALBERT HAYWARD, late of Winthrop, in the County of Kennebec, deceased, respectfully shews that said minor is seized and possessed of certain real estate, situate in said Winthrop, and described as follows:—one piece bounded on the East by the pond called Narrows pond, on the North by Isacher Snell's land, on the West by a road leading from said Snell's house to Daniel Hayward's, and on the South by land of the said Oren Shaw's, being the household farm of the said deceased; also one other piece situate in said Winthrop, bounded on the East by said road, on the South by land of Dudley Todd, on the West by land of said Snell, and on the North by the County road and by land of said Snell. The aforesaid lands are subject to the said George's mother, right of Dower therein: that said estate is unproductive of any benefit to said minor and that it will be for the interest of said minor that the same should be sold and the proceeds put out and secured on interest. He therefore prays your honor that he may be authorized and empowered agreeably to law to sell at public or private sale the above described real estate, or such part of it as in your opinion may be expedient. All which is respectfully submitted.

OREN SHAW.

COUNTY OF KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate, held in Augusta on the second Tuesday of March, 1834.

ON the Petition aforesaid, Ordered, That notice be given by publishing a copy of said petition, with this order thereon, three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Winthrop, that all persons interested may attend on the second Monday of April next, at the Court of Probate then to be holden in Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted. Such notice to be given before said Court.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

Attest: E. T. BRIDGE, Register.

A true copy of the petition and order thereon.

Attest: E. T. BRIDGE, Register.

March 13, 1834.

Sw.

BRIGHTON MARKET—MONDAY, March 17.
(Reported for the Boston Daily Advertiser & Patriot.)

At Market this day, 275 Beef Cattle, 14 pair working Oxen, 15 Cows and Calves; 162 Sheep and 1200 Swine.—400 Swine passed through Brighton on Saturday.

PRICES. Beef Cattle.—Sales were quick and last week's prices were fully supported. We noticed four yoke taken at \$6, one of which was purchased by Mr. Adams of Kingston for the Plymouth market. We quote prime at 5 50 a \$75; good at 5 a 5 50; thin at 4 75 a \$5.

Working Oxen—No sales noticed.

Cows and Calves—We noticed sales at \$18, 24, 28, 30 and 35.

Sheep.—We noticed one lot taken at \$8 each, one at 7 each, one at 5 and one at 4 50 each.

Swine—In demand, and sales quick. Several large lots were taken at 5 for sows and 6c for barrows, and several lots at 5 1-4 for sows and 6 1-4c for barrows, one lot of selected barrows at 6 3-4—at retail, 6c for sows and 7c for barrows. Several thousand more are wanting.

FRANKLIN SOCIETY.

PUBLIC meeting next Tuesday evening, April 1st, at half past 6 o'clock, at the Masonic Hall.

QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION—Is the American Colonization Society deserving the countenance and support of the public?

Ladies and gentlemen are respectfully invited to attend.

Per order,

W. M. NOTES, Sec'y.

Ken. Co. Ag. Society.

The TRUSTEES of the Kennebec County Agricultural Society, by the authority vested in them by the By-Laws, hereby assign to the Standing Committee on Stock \$110, on Crops \$110, and on Manufactured Articles \$80, to be appropriated in premiums the ensuing year.

Ten Volumes of the MAINE FARMER for 1833 are also, by a vote of the Society, to be offered in premiums under the direction of the Standing Committees.

By a vote of the Society at the last annual meeting, the several Standing Committees were to be, and they hereby are requested to meet at the dwelling house of SAMUEL WOOD, Esq. in Winthrop, on Wednesday the 2d of April next, at 10 o'clock A. M. to consult upon and revise their lists of premiums and appoint the Adjudging Committees. It is to be hoped that this notice will receive prompt attention so that the several lists of premiums may be published in the next Maine Farmer.

SAM'L P. BENSON,
ELIJAH WOOD,
NATHAN FOSTER, Trustees.

Winthrop, March, 1834.

ADLE'S PATENT IMPROVED
TOOTH KEY.

NOTICE is hereby given to the public by the Subscriber that he has invented an Improved Tooth Key, and having obtained Letters Patent therefor, that he now offers for sale at his house in East Winthrop the instrument ready made, or "the right and liberty of making, constructing, using and vending to others to be used, his Improved Tooth Key for the term of fourteen years from the 30th day of July last.

He confidently believes that his Tooth Key combines more advantages than any other now in use, and this fact he is prepared to prove by the testimony of many of the most eminent Surgeons and Physicians in the State, and by numerous individuals of the highest respectability for whom he has extracted teeth which could not be taken by the most skilful hand with the old-fashioned Keys. He respectfully invites Surgeons, Physicians and the public generally to call and examine his Improved Key; for he does not doubt, that, when the public are acquainted with its value, it will supersede all others now in use.

CORNELIUS ADLE.

East Winthrop, March 22, 1834.

K NOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That I, JOHN SMITH, Jun'r. of Wayne, in the County of Kennebec, and State of Maine, in consideration of Ten Dollars, paid by my sons, John Odlin Smith, and Joseph Hesleton Smith, I have this day relinquished to them their time till they arrive to the full age of twenty-one years; with power to trade and transact business for themselves, so that neither I, the said John Smith, Jr. nor any person under me, my heirs or assigns, shall in any way claim a right to the earnings of the said John and Joseph, from this date till they arrive at the full age of twenty one years.

Dated March the 4th day, eighteen hundred and thirty four.

JOHN SMITH, JR.

Signed and sealed in presence of
Francis J. Bowles, David P. Crocker.

POETRY.

From the Western Monthly Magazine.

The ladies have not forgotten us. We are glad of that; for if we have them on our side 'all the best men are ours,' at least so says Shakspere. We have the pleasure of presenting to our readers a poetic gem from the pen of Miss Gould, written for our magazine, and one of several most acceptable communications which we have received from that highly gifted lady. We have reason to hope that our readers will often be regaled with the delightful productions of her graceful and artless muse.

THE WINTER KING.

BY MISS H. F. GOULD.

O! what will become of thee, poor little bird?
The muttering storm in the distance is heard;
The rough winds are wakening, the clouds growing black;
They'll soon scatter snow flakes all over thy back!
From what sunny clime hast thou wandered away?
And what art thou doing, this cold winter day?

I'm picking the gum from the old peach tree—
The storm doesn't trouble me! Pee, dee, dee.

But, what makes thee seem so unconscious of care?
The brown earth is frozen, the branches are bare:
And how canst thou be so light-hearted and free,
Like Liberty's form, with the spirit of glee,
When no place is near for thy evening rest,
No leaf for thy screen, for thy bosom no rest?

Because the same hand is a shelter for me,
That took off the summer leaves—Pee, dee, dee.

But, man feels a burden of care and of grief,
While plucking the cluster and binding the sheaf!
In the summer we faint, in the winter we're chilled,
With ever a void that is yet to be filled.
We take from the ocean, the earth, and the air,
Yet, all their rich gifts do not silence our care.

A very small portion sufficient will be,
If sweetened with gratitude! Pee, dee, dee.

I thank thee, bright monitor! what thou has taught
Will oft be the theme of the happiest thought.
We look at the clouds—while the bird has an eye
To him who reigns over them, changeless and high,
And now, little hero, just tell me thy name,
That I may be sure whence my oracle came.

Because in all weather I'm merry and free,
They call me the Winter King—Pee, dee, dee.

But, soon there'll be ice weighing down the light bough
On which thou art flitting so playfully now;
And, though there's a vesture well fitted and warm
Protecting the rest of thy delicate form,
What, then, wilt thou do with thy little bare feet,
To save them from pain, 'mid the frost and the sleet?

I can draw them right up in my feathers, you see!
To warm them, and fly away! Pee, dee, dee!

Newburyport, Mass.

MISCELLANY.

From the Portland Courier.
EARLY IMPRESSIONS.

I was but five years old, when my mother died, but her image is as distinct in my recollection, now that twenty years have elapsed, as it was at the time of her death. I remember her, as a pale, beautiful, gentle being, with a sweet smile, and a voice that was soft and cheerful, when she praised me, and when I had erred, for I was a wild thoughtless child, there was a trembling mildness about it, that always went to my little heart. And then she was so kind and patient; methinks I can now see her large blue eyes, moist with sorrow, because of my childish waywardness, and hear her repeat 'my child, how can you grieve me so.' I recollect she had been for a long time pale and feeble, and that sometimes there would come a bright spot on her cheek, which made her look so lovely, I thought she must be well. But then she sometimes spoke of dying, and pressed me to her bosom, and told me "to be good when she was gone, and to love my father a great deal, and be kind to him, for he would have no one else to love." I recollect she was very sick all day, and my little hobby horse and whip were laid aside, and I tried to be very quiet. I did not see her for the whole day, and it seemed very long. At night they told me my mother was too sick to kiss me, as she always used to do, before I went to bed;

and I must go without it. But I could not. I stole into the room, and laying my lips close to hers, whispered "mother, mother, wont you kiss me?" Her lips were cold, and when she put her arm around me, laid my head upon her bosom, and one hand upon my cheek, I felt a cold shuddering creep all over me. My father carried me from the room; but he could not speak. After they put me in bed, I laid a long while thinking, I feared my mother would indeed die, for her cheek felt cold as my little sister's did, when she died, and they laid her in the ground. But the impressions of mortality are always indistinct in childhood, and I soon fell asleep. In the morning I hastened to my mother's room. A white napkin covered her face—I removed it—it was just as I feared. Her eyes were closed, her cheek was cold and hard, and only the lovely expression that always rested upon her lips, remained. In an instant, all the little faults, for which she had so often reproved me, rushed upon my mind. I longed to tell her how good I would always be, if she would but stay with me.—She was buried—but the memory of the funeral is indistinct. I only retain the impression, which her precepts and example left upon my mind. I was a passionate and headstrong boy, but I never yielded to this turn of my disposition without fancying I saw her mild tearful eye fixed upon me, just as she used to do in life. And then, when I had succeeded in overcoming it, her sweet smile of approbation beamed upon me, and I was happy. My whole character underwent a new change, even at the moment of her death. Her spirit was forever with me, strengthening my good resolutions, and weakening my propensity to evil. I felt that it would grieve her gentle spirit to see me err, and I could not, I would not, do it. I was the child of her affection: I knew she had prayed and wept over me, and that even on the threshold of the grave, her anxiety for my welfare had caused her spirit to linger, that she might pray once more for me. I resolved to become all she could desire. This resolution I have never forgotten. It helped me to subdue the waywardness of childhood, protected me through the temptations of youth, and will comfort and support me through the busier scenes of manhood. Whatever there is, that is estimable in my character, I owe to the impression of goodness made upon my infant mind, by the exemplary conduct and faithful instructions of my excellent mother.

VALUE OF CHARACTER.—Colonel Chartres (who was the most notorious rascal in the world, and who had by all sorts of crimes amassed immense wealth,) sensible of the disadvantages of a bad character, was once heard to say, that "although he would not give one farthing for virtue, he would give ten thousand pounds for a CHARACTER, because he should get a hundred thousand pounds by it." Is it possible, then, that an honest man can neglect what a wise rogue would purchase so dear?

READING, WRITING, AND SPEAKING.—Habits of literary conversation, and still more, habits of extempore discussion in a popular assembly, are peculiarly useful in giving us a ready and practical command of our knowledge. There is much good sense in the following aphorism of Bacon: "Reading makes a full man, writing a correct man, and speaking a ready man."

ROOM FOR REFORM.—The Maryland Herald says that, there are in the city of Baltimore, eleven hundred houses, where ardent spirits are manufactured or sold—and a great proportion of them are grog shops of the lowest character! What a nursery for pauperism and crime.



TO THE AFFLICTED.

D. STANLEY

OFFERS FOR SALE

THE DULCIFIED VEGETABLE COM-
POUND & DEOBSTRUENT PILLS,

A SAFE and efficient medicine for all those laboring under diseases of the Lungs, such as Coughs, Catarrhs, Croup, Asthma, inflammations of the mucus membranes of the throat and organs of the chest. This medicine has been singularly powerful in cases of bleeding from the Lungs, and as a preventive of Consumption. It is purely a vegetable composition, principally of native plants, and acts as a gentle stimulant of the digestive organs and as a corrector of the impurity of the blood and fluids necessary to good and perfect health. Hence it has been found exceedingly valuable in cases of general debility; also in Liver complaints, such as Jaundice, Rheumatism, as well as in the disorders peculiar to females. It is prepared and put up in the neatest manner by the inventor, E. HOLMES, M.D. who was first led to its use by ascertaining its efficacy upon himself in cough, spitting blood and pain in the chest, and it has since been administered to hundreds with unparalleled success.

Each bottle is accompanied by a box of pills enclosed in a pamphlet giving directions for its use—also certificates as to efficacy, &c. Price \$1.50.

Apply to DAVID STANLEY, Winthrop, Maine, Sole General Agent for the United States, to whom all orders must be sent (Post Paid.) Also to the following gentlemen, who are appointed Agents.

Wayne, H. W. Owen; Augusta, John Means; Hanover, Lincoln & Day; Gardiner, S. O. Broadstreet & Co.; Richmond, Wilson & Whitmore; Bowdoinham, Syms Gardner; Topsham, John Tibbits; Brunswick, John S. Cushing; Bath, Caleb Leavitt; Lisbon, Paul C. Tibbits; Lewiston, Nathan Reynolds; Garland, Charles Reynolds; Danville, G. D. Dickerson; Greene, A. Cary; Lead, Solomon Lothrop; Dixfield, J. B. Marrow.

NEW AGENTS.

Readfield, Jere. Page; Belgrade, Wm. Wyman; Vassalboro', J. Southwick & Co.; Fairfield, J. Elden; Anson, Benj Stewart; Winslow, S. & J. Eaton; Solon, Jacob Lovell, Jr.; Milburn, D. C. Weston & Co.; Canaan, S. & L. Barrett & Co.; Waterville, J. M. Moor & Co.; Cornville, Joshua Fogg; Norridgewock, Amasa Manley; Madison, Hale & Spaulding; Clinton, J. & S. Lunt.

FRUIT TREES.



ORNAMENTAL TREES, ROSES, FLOWERING PLANTS, &c. NURSERY OF WM. KENRICK IN NEWTON, 54 miles from Boston, by the City Mills.

FRANKLIN GLAZIER, Hallowell, { Agents.
DAVID STANLEY, Winthrop,

This Nursery now comprises a rare and extraordinary collection of fruit trees, Trees and Shrubs of Ornament, Roses, &c. and covers the most of 18 acres. Of new celebrated Pears alone, 150 kinds, a part of which, having already been proved in our climate, are specially recommended.—Of Apples 200 kinds—Peaches 115 kinds—Cherries 55 kinds—Plums, Nectarines, Almonds, Apricots, Quinces, Grape Vines, Currants, Raspberries, Goosberries, Strawberries, Figs, &c. &c.—selections from the best varieties known—collection in unequal proportions of 800 varieties of fruit.

White mulberries for silk worms. Also the MORUS MULTICAULIS or New Chinese Mulberry, a beautiful fruit tree, so superior to silk worms to all others.

OF ROSES. A superb collection of from 300 to 400 hardy and China varieties; selections from numerous importations, and first rate sources. Horse Chestnuts as hardy as oaks—Weeping Willows, Catalpas, Mountain Ash, Silver Firs, Venetian Sumach, Altheas, Honeysuckles, Azaleas, &c. &c.—in all, of Ornamental trees, and shrubs, 650 varieties. Of Herbaceous flowering plants, a choice selection of 280 varieties, including the Peonies, Moutan and Papaveraceæ—and 24 other kinds—and 83 splendid varieties of double Dahlias.

Trees, &c. delivered in Boston free of charge for transportation, and suitably packed, and from thence whenever ordered duly forwarded, by land or sea.

March 20, 1834.

JAMES ROBERTS,

BARBER AND HAIR DRESSER,

TENDERS his professional services to the good people of Winthrop and vicinity, and informs them that he has taken a shop in the village where he will be happy to shave them in the neatest manner, or tonsorize their heads a la mode.

He also Hones and Straps razors for those who can't afford to be shaved in style, and will put upon them such a keen edge that they will operate to perfection, though used by the most bungling hand.